REMARKS

The claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies in order to place the application into better form prior to examination. Entry of the present amendment and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or under 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Ву

John A. Castellano

Reg. No. 35,094

P.O. Box 747'

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

JAC/slk

(0459-0527P)